

THE SIGNAL

January 2013 | Vol. 14 | No. 1
www.chambleega.com

A Publication of the
City of Chamblee

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*A City on
the Right Track*

Chamblee City Council Approves 2013 Budget

Chamblee City Council members approved the budget for fiscal year 2013 in December during their final meeting for 2012.

For fiscal year 2013, the city projects total revenue for all city funds of \$14,440,441 with total expenditures for all funds of \$14,336,866. The General Fund revenue is projected at \$10,037,488 versus expenses of \$10,373,609. The \$336,121 deficit is to be offset from the Unassigned General Fund Balance that is expected to exceed four million dollars at the end of the year.

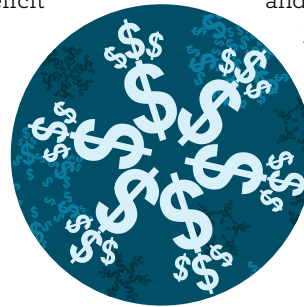
For budgetary purposes, the property tax revenues

were estimated at the same level as tax revenues actually received during 2012. The property tax digest will be evaluated in May prior to officially setting the tax rate for 2013.

The 2013 budget includes a Cost of Living Adjustment of one percent and up to an additional two percent for merit increases. These changes result in a \$147,750 increase in salaries and a \$28,184 increase in Social Security, Medicare and retirement contributions.

Health insurance costs for 2013 will increase by 18 percent. The budget also includes an increase in retirement contributions by .9 percent (11.65 percent to 12.56 percent).

For more info, please go to www.chambleega.com.



Chamblee Names Assistant Police Chief

As of January 1, the Chamblee Police Department has a new second in command. At its December 18, 2012 meeting, the Chamblee City Council approved a request by Chief of Police R. Marc Johnson to reclassify a position to assistant chief. This move allowed him to promote Capt. Donny Williams to fill the position.

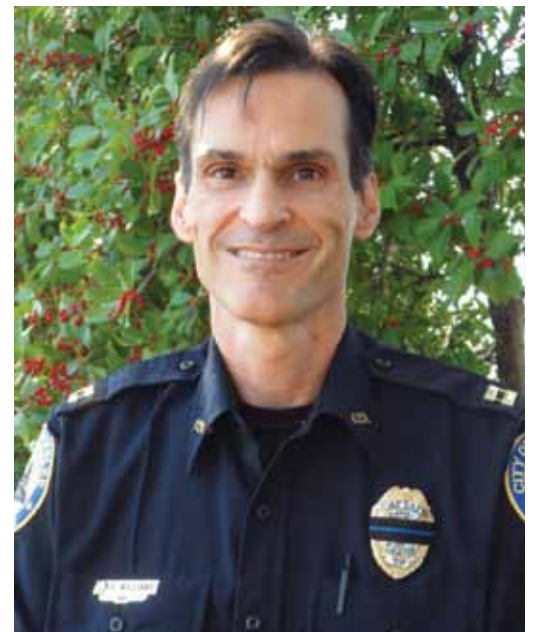
Previously the uniform division commander, Williams began with the department 21 years ago as a patrol officer. His primary responsibility will continue to involve commanding the uniform division, which includes four patrol teams as well as Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), Traffic and K-9 Units. In addition, he will serve as the designated second in command and share some responsibility for other personnel within the department.

Williams' law enforcement career began in

1989 with the Atlanta Police department where he served two years as a patrol officer. He is a graduate of the University of Georgia with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice.

The Flowery Branch resident and his wife, Sue, a former Chamblee detective, have a five-year-old daughter, Ava.

Capt. Donny Williams



Property Tax: Senior and Disability Exemption

Resident homeowners, age 65 and over, may apply for a Senior Homeowner Tax Exemption. To be exempt from paying city property taxes you must meet the following requirements:

- All parties listed as owners on the property deed must be 65 years or older before January 1, 2013.
- Property must be designated as primary residence by filing Homestead Exemption with DeKalb County.
- Proof of age (driver's license or other identification) must be provided for all owners listed on the deed.
- Visit City Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. between **January 1 and February 28** and complete an exemption form in person.

Homeowners who have received 100 percent disability status with the Social Security Administration or the Veteran's Administration also are eligible for this city exemption.

The exemption will apply to your 2013 Property Tax Statement and you will not be billed for city taxes, however, you still will be required to pay

stormwater and sanitation fees.

Additional tax exemptions from DeKalb County must be filed separately. Check with the County Tax Commissioner's Office at 404-298-4000 to make sure you are receiving all exemptions to which you are entitled. To receive the senior exemption from DeKalb County, seniors must apply in person at 4380 Memorial Drive, Suite 100, Decatur, GA 30232.

For more information, please call Linda McDaniel, assistant city clerk, at 770-986-5010, ext. 226, or email lmcdaniel@chambleega.com.

2013 Occupation Tax/Business License Renewals

Occupation tax/business license renewals for 2013 will be mailed out around January 15, 2013. The expiration date noted on your Occupation Tax Certificate is December 31, 2012, however, there is a grace period and your Occupation Tax Certificate will be considered valid until April 15, 2013.

SENIOR CENTER GROUNDBREAKING

DeKalb County broke ground on the new North DeKalb Senior Community Center during a ceremony in November 2012. DeKalb County Chief Executive Officer Burrell Ellis, DeKalb County Board of Commissioners and the City of Chamblee held the groundbreaking at the planned 15,000-square-foot center — operated by Senior Connections — at 3393 Malone Drive in Chamblee. Chamblee Mayor R. Eric Clarkson spoke during the event.



City of Chamblee
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Fax: (770) 986-5014
www.chambleega.com

Mayor — R. Eric Clarkson

District 1 — Mark Wedge

District 2 — Leslie Robson

District 3 — Tom Hogan

District 4, At-Large — Dan Zanger

District 5, At-Large — Scott M. Taylor

City Manager — Niles R. Ford, PhD

City Clerk — Emmie Niethammer

Chief of Police — Marc Johnson

Finance Director — Travis Sims

Parks & Recreation — Joel Holmes

Public Works — Tillman Hannon

City Hall

(770) 986-5010

Public Works/Animal Control

(770) 986-5019

Development

(770) 986-5010

Parks & Recreation

(770) 986-5016

Police Department

(770) 986-5005

Municipal Court

(770) 986-5004

Code Enforcement

(770) 986-5005

code_enforcement@chambleepd.com

Police Emergency — 911

The Signal is the official publication of the City of Chamblee and serves to provide timely information on events, activities and news related to Chamblee. Press releases, announcements and other materials submitted for potential publication are subject to editing.

SIGNAL SPOTLIGHT

Public Works Director Tillman Hannon Set to Mark 31 Years

He's gone from a sanitation worker to the head of the department where he got his start. And in February, Tillman Hannon will mark 31 years with the City of Chamblee Public Works department. A Flowery Branch resident who grew up outside Chamblee on Chamblee Tucker Road, Hannon has five children — Jeremy, 28, Ethan, 25, Austin, 21, Sidney, eight, and one-year-old Willow — with his wife, Denise. Here, he takes time to share more about his decades of service.

How does it feel to mark 30 years with the City of Chamblee?

I can't believe it has been 30 years! It's been a long road marked with triumphs and disappointments. I feel grateful to the city for all it has done to help me and my family. The city and its employees have watched over me and my efforts the entire time I have worked here, and I feel I have returned the favor by watching and encouraging our new employees in the same way. I have made lifelong friends and learned more than I ever thought possible working at the City of Chamblee.

Did you ever imagine you'd make it to 30 years?

Not a chance! After returning from my training with the Army Reserve, I started on the back of a garbage truck throwing trash. I told myself I would just work here until something better came along. Well, every time I looked, the city provided me

with a chance to grow and move forward with a new challenge.

Tell us more about Public Works.

We have 27 outstanding full-time employees — which I feel are second to none — doing everything one could imagine. Our employees perform vehicle maintenance on all city vehicles, building maintenance on all city buildings, animal control services, sanitation and recycle collection, leaf collection, storm water maintenance and repair, roads and sidewalk repairs and mowing and sweeping services. An administrative department handles everything else, including reports for the county, state and federal agencies.

What do you enjoy most about your work?

The people I work with and for every day. The fact that I do something similar, yet different, every day. I enjoy it when a customer/resident calls in and they can't say enough good things about our city and the Public Works department. It makes me feel I have accomplished my goal when residents call in and state that our department runs the way government should.

What are some of your hobbies?

Riding my Harley-Davidson Road King anywhere, woodworking (building bridges, playground equipment and furniture), working with my sons developing our own small business (J.E.T. Storm Water Maintenance) and spending time with my children.

Chamblee Welcomes New City Clerk

A 10-year Human Resources professional, Emmie Niethammer joins the City of Chamblee as its new City Clerk. Niethammer came on board in December, following a roughly nine-month search.

Among other things, the City Clerk prepares agendas for scheduled meetings and prepares and maintains minutes for all official meetings of the mayor and Council, as well as handles personnel records, maintains employees' benefits records and is the backup for facilitating payroll. Those reporting to City Clerk include the Assistant City Clerk and City Hall administrative assistants.

"Emmie is bringing extensive knowledge in human resources, organization and administration and a high level of customer service," says City Manager/CEO Niles Ford, Ph.D. "Frankly, I expect her to make a productive and positive impact very quickly."



Having spent four years with Peachtree Benefit Group in Chamblee, Niethammer says she's excited to be working in her new Chamblee position.

"Coming to work at the City of Chamblee feels like I am coming home," the Cumming resident says. "While I may not reside here, I have spent a lot of time in the City of Chamblee community and really enjoy being here."

Niethammer lived in Colorado and Texas before moving to Georgia, where she attended LaGrange College and graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration from Georgia State University in Atlanta. The former employee benefits manager and Human Resources director says she got her start in accounting. "I have always enjoyed and excelled at working with numbers," says Niethammer, "but found I enjoyed working with people more. My boss realized it, too, and transitioned me into Human Resources early in my career."

She and her husband, Mark, have been married for 11 years and have a seven-year-old daughter, Lauren.

When not working, she enjoys photography, playing tennis and running. She also leads her daughter's Girl Scout Daisy troop and is a member of Roswell United Methodist Church and the North Georgia Walk to Emmaus community.

SIGNAL SPOTLIGHT

Every Day a Celebration: Assistance League of Atlanta

For Assistance League of Atlanta, marking its 30th anniversary and three decades of service to the community in October 2012, these days mean great cause for celebration. But “every day is a celebration,” says longtime volunteer Elaine McClean. “Some progress is making a difference,” she

explains. “You just have to think Assistance League is out there in our community making a difference, and it’s worth celebrating, I think.”

An all-volunteer nonprofit organization, Assistance League of Atlanta works to help children and adults in need rebuild their lives and become more self-sufficient. It is one of 120 chapters of National Assistance League, which got its start in Los Angeles in the early 1900s. Assistance League of Atlanta works through social agencies, public school systems,

homeless shelters and hospitals and other medical facilities to assist families in Atlanta, DeKalb and Fulton counties.

A group of 34 women founded the Atlanta chapter in Chamblee in 1982. The original space — a photo of which hangs in the office of president Ingrid Jarvis — was across the street from the current location, where the organization moved in 2001. The building is a 13,000-square-foot facility that Assistance League of Atlanta owns at 3534 Broad Street.

Over the years, the 250-strong volunteer organization has grown to keep up with the growing needs of the community. “We always have the ability to change as the needs change,” says McClean, a Tucker resident who will reach her 15th year of volunteering in February. “That’s what I love about this organization — that we’ve been able to adapt to serve the needs of the community.”

One change the nonprofit has noticed in recent years is the rise in the number of homeless adults and children needing assistance. In 2012, says volunteer Ann Cummins, the organization doubled the number of elementary school



(l to r): Assistance League of Atlanta president Ingrid Jarvis and Ann Cummins hold teddy bears bearing the organization’s name. The bears go to traumatized children. Standing are (l to r): Bette Swilley, Sherry Waugh and Elaine McClean, also volunteers.



Assistance League of Atlanta owns and operates Attic Treasures Thrift Shop, a nonprofit shop that carries gently used clothing, household items, collectibles, books and more.

Volunteer Elaine McClean hands over bags of donations Assistance League of Atlanta makes available to DeKalb County schools.



children — from Atlanta Public and Fulton County and DeKalb County schools — to which it provided new clothing through its Operation School Bell™ program.

Funding for that program and others of the organization comes through Attic Treasures Thrift Shop, owned and operated by Assistance League of Atlanta.

Assistance League of Atlanta offers a number of programs, including Bears for Children, through which it provides teddy bears to traumatized children at hospitals and sexual assault centers; Links to Education, which awards college scholarships; New Beginnings, which provides new household goods, clothing and personal care items to those who’ve faced domestic violence, abuse or homelessness; and Wee Help, which makes available new layettes to newborns of mothers in need. The Waste Not program sends donations that Assistance League of Atlanta isn’t able to sell to other charities such as Genesis Shelter.

In addition to funding from Attic Treasures, the nonprofit, which always could benefit from additional funding, also relies on grants, donations and fundraising events to help meet the needs of those it serves.

MORE INFO:

Assistance League of Atlanta
3534 Broad Street
Chamblee, GA 30341
770-458-2038
www.assistanceleagueatl.org

AROUND CHAMBLEE

Parks and Recreation

DADDY-DAUGHTER DANCE

The annual semi-formal dance for girls in eighth grade or younger to dance the night away with their dad, granddad or uncle will take place on February 9, 2013 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Chamblee Civic Center. The daddy-daughter dance includes a professional portrait, food, music, games and prizes! Dads: Here's your chance to brush up on your best dance moves. Cost is \$30 for the first daughter and \$5 for each additional daughter. For more information or to register, please contact Loren Roberts at (770) 986-5016 or lroberts@chambleega.com. You also may register online at www.chambleega.com.



ADULT SOFTBALL

Men's league adult softball will take place on Monday, Wednesday and Sunday. Co-ed leagues are on Tuesday and Thursday. The registration fee is \$475 per team. Registration begins in mid-January for the regular season that starts in March and will last for approximately 10 weeks. A single elimination post-season tournament will follow the regular season. For more information or to register, please contact Joel Holmes at jholmes@chambleega.com or (770) 986-5016. You may also register online at www.chambleega.com.

YOUTH SOCCER

Chamblee Parks & Recreation offers youth soccer leagues for ages four and up. Each participant will receive two game jerseys, shorts and socks. Registration will begin in mid-January for the roughly 10-week regular season that gets underway in March. For more information or to register a team, please contact Joel Holmes at jholmes@chambleega.com or (770) 986-5016.

YOUTH BASEBALL

Parks & Recreation offers youth baseball leagues for ages three to eight. Each participant will receive a jersey, pants, hat and socks. You'll have a chance to register your child starting in January. The regular season will begin in March and last for approximately 10 weeks. For additional information or to register, please contact Joel Holmes at jholmes@chambleega.com or (770) 986-5016. You may also register online at www.chambleega.com.

YOGA:

The next yoga series will begin on Wednesday, January 16 at

the Keswick Park Community Building. Students can choose between a Basics Vinyasa class and a Gracious Yoga class. Both classes will last eight weeks. The instructor is Maggie Anderson of Atlanta Real Yoga. The cost of the eight-week series is \$70, with class meeting every Wednesday beginning on January 16. The Basics Vinyasa class will meet from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. This class is for those who prefer a basic flow yoga class, appropriate for all levels, including beginners. You will need to bring a yoga mat and any other props you would like to use such as block, strap or blanket. The Gracious Yoga class will meet from 7:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. This class is appropriate for beginners, or for anyone of any age who wants a gentle class, including most people with mobility issues due to arthritis, tendinitis, chronic injury, surgery, or simply the natural aging process. You will need to bring a yoga mat, as well as a blanket or pillow/bolster if you are okay with sitting on the floor. These props will help to properly align your spine (if the floor is not an option, chairs also will be available). To register online, go to www.chambleega.com. More info: contact Loren Roberts at (770) 986-5016 or lroberts@chambleega.com. For specific questions for the instructor, e-mail atlantameg@gmail.com or call (404) 392-0398.

BOOT CAMP

Classes for the 2013 Keswick Park Boot Camp will take place each Tuesday and Thursday evening from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and on Saturday from 9 a.m. to



10:30 a.m. Classes meet at the Community Building parking lot in Keswick Park. Local certified personal trainers Charles Palmer and Franklyn Brown will teach the classes. Your boot camp experience includes three workout sessions per week, weekly assessment appointments, a food journal and guaranteed results! All are welcome to try out a few classes for free with no obligation to commit. Lock in for the year at a rate of \$89.95 per month. For more information or to register, contact Loren Roberts at (770) 986-5016 or lroberts@chambleega.com. You may also register online at www.chambleega.com.

Keep Chamblee Beautiful

Recycle your Christmas tree and phone books on Saturday, January 5 in the Chamblee Civic Center parking lot at 3540 Broad Street. This is free and open to the public. Your Christmas tree can be recycled into mulch that will be used in local beautification projects. For more information on this event, please contact Keep Chamblee Beautiful at (770) 455-0273.

AROUND CHAMBLEE

New Chamblee Business Association President Takes Helm

Starting this month, Van Pappas, chair of the Huntley Hills Elementary School Council and member of the Chamblee Recreation Advisory Committee, will serve as president of the Chamblee Business Association (CBA) for 2013.

A resident of Huntley Hills for 12 years, Pappas became a CBA board member and president-elect in January 2012. The certified financial planner and vice president with oXYGen Financial, Inc. in Alpharetta, Pappas is married and has a six-year-old son, Theo, with his wife, Lori. He is active with both the PTA and his neighborhood association. When not working, Pappas — who has sectioned hiked over a third of the Appalachian Trail — enjoys kayaking.

His 2013 goals for CBA include:

- Create a Communications/Outreach director to better communicate association events in a timely manner and bridge the gap between Chamblee citizens and businesses;
- Form a committee to push a membership drive of businesses

Chamblee Business Association

The January meeting of the Chamblee Business Association is set for Thursday, January 17. CBA welcomes the public to its monthly meetings and networking events.

CBA meetings take place on the third Thursday of each month at the Chamblee Civic Center at 3540 Broad St. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. with the program beginning at 8 a.m. Costs are \$10 for returning guests, \$5 for members and free for first-time guests. Meetings include a continental breakfast.

On January 8, join CBA for its monthly Business Networking Event (held the second Tuesday of each month). The event will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at 57th Fighter Group Restaurant at 3829 Clairmont Road. It's open to CBA members and non-members.

www.chambleebusinessassociation.com

Chamblee Seniors Breakfast Club

The Chamblee Seniors Breakfast Club doesn't plan to meet in January and will hold its next meeting on the first Thursday in February at the Chamblee Civic Center.

More info: Evelyn Kennedy at 770-451-4891 or Becky Craven at 770-457-3834

in Chamblee to increase the association member role;

- Promote the 2013 Taste of Chamblee and look for ways to make the event even greater;
- Work with the board to line up speakers for monthly meetings that would be engaging to business members and draw in citizen participation.

CBA works to advance the business community in and around Chamblee and to allow for the business community to have a voice in the development of the city. It helps sponsor the annual Taste of Chamblee each year.

More info: www.chambleebusinessassociation.com



Zaxby's Now Open

Zaxby's in Chamblee has opened its doors. The quick-casual establishment is located at 4906 Peachtree Boulevard near Lowe's. Operated by Sheila Cobb-Williams, it serves chicken sandwiches, chicken fingers and more. Zaxby's is open daily starting at 10:30 a.m.

From Code Enforcement, Chamblee Police Department

SEC. 74-26.—UNLAWFUL DEPOSIT OR ACCUMULATION OF WASTE.




It shall be unlawful for any person to throw or place upon the ground, or to allow or cause to be thrown or placed upon the ground, or to allow to accumulate outside a container as prescribed by the ordinances of the city, on or about the premises of any dwelling or business place, or upon any vacant ground, or in or upon any streets, road or alley, within the city, any garbage, refuse matter, filth, food scraps, litter, papers, decayed matter or matter liable to decay, or liable to cause offensive odors, or liable to endanger life, limb or property, or liable to create a fire hazard.

(CODE 1982, § 5-2-1)

SEC. 74-27.—DEPOSIT OF WASTE IN STREAM OR SEWER.

No person shall throw any rotten fruit, vegetables, dead carcasses, leaves, trash, grass or other substance of like kind into any stream, sewer or separate storm water sewer in the city.

JANUARY 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>All meetings will take place at the Chamblee Civic Center, 3540 Broad Street, unless otherwise noted.</p> <p><i>* Location for January 3 events: Keswick Park Community Building, 3496 Keswick Drive</i></p>	 <p>1 New Year's Day Holiday</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 Recreation Advisory Committee, 7 p.m., Keswick Park Community Building, 3496 Keswick Drive Keep Chamblee Beautiful,* 7 p.m. Court, 6 p.m.</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 Bring One for the Chipper 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Chamblee Civic Center Yoga series kickoff* 7:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>7 Court, 6 p.m.</p>	<p>8 Chamblee Business Association, Business Networking Event 5:30 p.m., 57th Fighter Group Restaurant, 3829 Clairmont Road</p>	<p>9 Court, 6 p.m.</p>	<p>10 Public Hearing and Work Session, 6 p.m.</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>14 Court, 6 p.m.</p>	<p>15 Chamblee City Council Meeting 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 Chamblee Business Association, 7:30 a.m.</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 Compost and Recycle 8 a.m. to noon 3210 Cumberland Drive</p>
<p>20</p>	<p>21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Inauguration Day Holiday</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Court, 6 p.m.</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 Court, 6 p.m.</p>	<p>Keswick Park Community Boot Camp dates: January 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 15, 17, 19, 22, 24, 26, 29, 31 Location: Keswick Park Community Building parking lot</p> 	

COMMUNITY NOTES

From Public Works

HOLIDAY SANITATION SCHEDULE

New Year's Day: Offices will be closed Tuesday, Jan. 1.

Week of Dec. 31: Monday and Thursday pickups will stay the same. Tuesday and Friday pickups will take place on Wednesday and Friday.

MLK Jr. Day: Offices will be closed Monday, Jan. 21.

Week of Jan. 21: Monday and Thursday pickups will take place on Tuesday and Thursday. Tuesday and Friday pickups will take place on Wednesday and Friday.

Recyclable materials will be collected on your last pickup day of the week.



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

The Public Works Department would like to start suggesting ways to help reduce, reuse and recycle. Did you know that the average household produces at least one ton of garbage each year? At least one quarter of that can be recycled. Reducing the waste that goes to landfills also reduces the cost of landfill bills.

Look for products that use less packaging. When manufacturers make their products with less packaging, they use fewer raw materials. This reduces waste and costs. Buying in bulk, for example, can reduce packaging and save money.

Buy reusable over disposable items. Look for items that can be reused because the little things can add up. For example, bring your own silverware and cup to work, rather than using disposable items. Also, using reusable shopping bags helps eliminate the waste going into the landfills. Plastic bags are not biodegradable.



Go Paperless

The Signal is going paperless! In an effort to cut costs on both the city and taxpayers, the City of Chamblee will make The Signal newsletter and calendar available online only for viewing and downloading. If you'd still prefer a hard copy, please send an email to Libby Galvin at lgalvin@chambleega.com or call 770-986-5010.

